

QUA FARC

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10



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Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/zl1sa>
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Meetings: Club meetings are on the third Tuesday each month in the clubrooms, 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe, at 7.30 PM. Visitors welcome.

Next General Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16 January at 7.30 PM in the clubrooms located at 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe. At our last meeting we were due to hear Steve ZL1SPR talk to the club on his adventures in the radio room of the USS Missouri battleship in Pearl Harbour. Due to a computer glitch, Steve found the file he had prepped for his laptop was incomplete so could not deliver his talk. He re-scheduled for the next meeting. After Steve's talk there will be coffee/tea and biscuits.



Dennis KH7MU operates HF on board USS Missouri museum ship in Pearl Harbour.

Tips For Learning Morse Code (CW)

From Chuck Adams, K7QO & Rod Dinkins, AC6V SK
Brought to you by the ARRL

Start! Whether you use CDs, computer software, or a partner to send and receive, you won't get anywhere until you get started.

As a small child learns first to crawl, then to walk, and finally, to run, you, too, must learn in steps.

Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month (excepting January) at 7.30 in the clubrooms.

Subscriptions: individual \$20, family \$30, due December
Bank Number: 02-0404-0157944-000

Nets: Sunday 9 AM on 3.700 MHz (Mike ZL1UOM) and 9.30 AM on 146.90 MHz (Peter ZL1PX). Wednesday 7.30 on DMR TG 5301 (Steve ZL1TZP).

QUA editor: Peter ZL1PX pjh@teachlit.com

QUA sent by email to club members and anyone interested. Permission to copy material is freely granted, provided you include authorship.

Learning Morse code (CW) properly requires both self-study, and the help of someone sending CW to you. Learn each character as a sound. Morse code is a language of sounds. Never write dots and dashes.

Repetition is the key to remembering anything, including Morse characters. Some folks master it in days, others in months. All who keep at it, get it.



TeachMorse teaching program available from NZART website delivers Morse at any character speed and spacing you choose.

The Farnsworth Method is recommended. With the Farnsworth Method, you learn each character at 15 words per minute with large spacing in between characters. This has been proven to be the best method for long-range development. Once the characters are learned, copying speed is easily increased by decreasing the spacing between each character.

Practice, practice, practice. No matter if you learn quickly, or slowly, the key to learning is practice. With enough practice, just about anyone can learn Morse code. Sometimes, skipping a day or two of practice is helpful, and can get you back on track.

Take advantage of all available practice. Your local area may offer Morse code practice through a 2 Meter Repeater, which you can copy with a scanner. If you have a rig or shortwave receiver, you'll benefit from any CW you hear. Just listen and copy as many characters as you possibly can. Once again, practice will pay off. The more you listen, the

more you'll be able to copy and understand. After a while, you'll be copying more characters than you are missing. While driving down the road, I would translate road signs to Morse code in my head - the faster the better.

One of the best ways to practice is to use the "Buddy System." Get a friend, spouse, relative, or anyone willing to share their time, to learn along with you. Enlist the aid of an experienced CW operator for answering questions and making sure you don't develop any bad habits.

(Morse training on receiving CW begins March, Mon 7.15, Tue, Thu and Fri 7.30 on National System and 3755 kHz. Contact David ZL1DK for further details.)



New Year Outdoor Mobile Activity

A number of members are developing SOTA and POTA skills and New Year Amateur Radio Mobile Day was the perfect opportunity to get out and about.

Steve ZL1TZP kicked off the year with a SOTA activation on Mount William Walkway (AKA Puketutu) near Bombay. Jason ZL1JRW wasn't able to do New Year but followed up with his own POTA the following day. Steve and Jason's reports are given below.

Steve

SOTA designation ZL1/Wk-158 is Puketutu, just south of Bombay. (Red mark on right of map marks location).



The activation went very well, a little slow at first, but from about 12 noon things picked up.

I was on my own. However Steve ZL1SPR was on Pukekohe hill not far away.

Everything went well, no equipment problems.

Equipment used:

Rig: Ft-818. With small Linear Amp driven by rig on low power to give about 20-25w output.

Antenna: home brew vertical.

Battery: 7Ah Lithium Deep-Cycle

Weather was good, nice and sunny, but not too hot as it was quite windy.



Gear laid out on sheltered side of summit

We are lucky here (in New Zealand) as the year roll over is during our new year's day, this means that we can claim 2 activations, one on each UTC year. So I could get a 2023 activation of this summit before NZT 1:00pm and then after 1:00pm an activation for 2024 from the same summit. A real advantage here as you can only gain points from a summit once a year.

This meant that there were a lot of activators out there and quite a number of chasers. I managed 13 contacts before 1pm, and 20 including 2 VK contacts after 1pm.

Many of my afternoon contacts were summit-to-summit contacts. The 2 VK contacts were summit-to-summit.

Frequencies used were, 7.090 +/-, 14.310 +/- and 146.500.

Jason

Due to family commitments my plans to get out and run portable on New Year's Day was not going to happen so I settled for the day after. I was determined not to miss out on all the activity!

Originally, my plan was to head south and activate the Hakarimata summit near Ngaruawahia, however feeling a little lazy this particular morning I settled on Awhitu Regional Park instead for some POTA work.



The park is beautiful with many places to set up and activate and what's even better is that it is often not very busy at all.

My setup consists of my Xieugu G90 running at 20 watts using the JPC12 vertical antenna with ground radials. This antenna takes a lot less time to set up than the end fed half wave wire I was previously using and with surprisingly good results. The end fed wire was a bit of a mission in itself to erect as you would have to first find a couple of decent trees to drape the wire between, then using a fishing sinker on some rope, lasso the sinker up into the branches pulling the wire with it. And yes in case you were wondering there were several times the sinker swung back and hit me square on the forehead...

This particular day I managed 13 contacts some as far south as Christchurch most of which were on 40 meters SSB with a couple of 2m simplex.



Karioitahi Beach

The next day (although not a POTA or SOTA, maybe a BOTA?) I decided to take a drive out to Karioitahi Beach just before sunset. The goal was to see how well I could get in to VK and beyond. I managed several great QSO's into VK with excellent signal reports but most surprising was the several contacts with Japanese stations. Pretty cool with a 20 watt portable rig I thought. They seemed quite surprised too when I announced I was QRP or thereabouts.

Speak to myself or Steve ZL1TZP if you would like information on how to kick off your first SOTA or POTA Activation.

Thanks Steve and Jason for your inspiring reports. (Ed)

Te Puke Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Branch 53 of NZART

22ND MARKET DAY

Saturday March 2nd, 2024

**Paengaroa Community Hall.
4 Old Coach Road, Paengaroa.**

(GPS Coordinates: 37.49S 176.24E)

Venue opens for Vendors from 06.30am.
Sale time 09.30am.

Door Charge \$2.00 per person to help recover costs.

Table Costs

Pre-Sale 1.8 Table \$20.00, On the Day \$25.00
Pre-Sale ½ Table \$12.00, On the Day \$15.00.

Hot Breakfast Available from 07.30am to 11.00am.

For further information & Table Booking's, Contact Syd Rowe ZL1LWR
Phone (07) 533 1029, Mobile: 0272488664, Email sydrowe@xtra.co.nz
Postal Address: 223 State Highway 33, RD 9, Te Puke 3189

RWB Communications (Icom).

**ZL4AUG Tony Anderson (See attachment Messi & Paoloni)
Will be attending.**

**Accommodation available at the Junction Motel, Paengaroa.
(See attachment)**

Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 5 December 2023

Chairperson Peter ZL1PX opened the meeting at 1929 hours and welcomed all to a new year in the life of the club.

Attendance: ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1BQA, ZL1UOM, ZL1TZP, ZL1AMQ, ZL1WGL

Apology: ZL1SPR ZL1PX / ZL1BQA

Minutes of the November meeting.
Approved ZL1WGL / ZL1TO

Correspondence

Newsletters received since publication of November general minutes, from Branches:

29: Lots about Ham Cram. Plans for Jock White field days. Six new hams. Proposed remit to NZART that 5-25 MHz operation by new amateurs should no longer require logging 50 contacts. Reprint of newspaper article.

65: Youth on air month (YOTA). Will AI make radio more fun? H night 8 December. National System back on air. Playing with NVIS. Report and photos on Christmas Dinner.

86: (December) Cover photo - lowering ZLD towers 1993. Geochron world clock. Collins receiver project. H night contest 8 December. Motorcycle run to Musick Point. Incandescent lamps. GROTA November field trial.

The correspondence report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Income	Interest \$92.74 (6 November)
	Subscriptions received from ZL1RP, ZL1LL, ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL

Expenditure	Power bill \$52.58 paid 3 December
	FMG Insurance \$765.83 paid 20 November and ratified at AGM

Suggested that the term deposit be rolled over for 1 year. Currently we can anticipate the new interest rate will be 6.1% (compared with the 5.2% we currently get – with interest paid monthly)

The finance report was approved, and roll over of the term deposit is approved.

Reports AREC.

Franklin Disaster Resilience meeting. The Franklin Local Board has contracted a professional to draw up a draft plan for Pukekohe and that was up for comment on Tuesday 28 November. ZL1TO attended the meeting at St Andrews. ZL1TO attended the AREC regional meeting at VHF Group clubhouse, Thursday 16 November. No move yet to recruit a Deputy Group Leader. Peter ZL1PX asked if we would like Carol McKenzie-Rex to speak to us, but Tom felt this had already been done by her consulting with the resilience group. The Pukekohe draft plan is to be circulated to this committee.

Christmas on the Green, 2 December

Peter ZL1PX reported that the radio display went quite well. Visitors had to enter past us to go to the free rides – a rock wall, bouncy castle etc. 20 kids and 1 adult did their stuff on the radio. Next year we may do this activity differently. Regarding the Morse on 7020kHz – ZL1NZ had lots of local noise, but Paul ZL1AJY had no noise problem at the North Shore. A 9 year old, Mason, did very well and his coding was computer readable.

Used equipment.

A friend of David ZL1MZ has gear to be picked up from Clevedon. It is about a car boot full, and will be collected next Tuesday by ZL1TZP and ZL1PX.

General business

The annual dinner with Papakura Radio Club was held at Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club on Friday 1 December. From an anticipated 40 we had 37 in attendance. Price charged was \$35 each, which was a reduction of \$3 on what we were quoted. Franklin had 15. There were no complaints on the quality of the meal – and it appears to have been a happy gathering.

Ham exam

David Manning of Paparata Road now has the call sign ZL1DMM. He does not yet have radio capability, and needs a 2 m antenna.

MOTAT

Peter ZL1PX reported that MOTAT would like to see us again for a display on March 18 2024.

75th Anniversary

Gary ZL1WGL has a copy of the ZL1WU booklet. Lynnette ZL1LL has done an updated list of Presidents and Secretaries.

Topics at coming general meetings

December: Steve ZL1SPR will give a talk on his recent trip to visit USS Missouri in Hawaii. Supper will include strawberries and icecream.

January: Peter ZL1PX has a contact at MOTAT who has a load of speakers available. One possibility is a talk on the old trams of Auckland.

At a month to be decided: Ted ZL1BQA has suggested that we assemble in a big circle of chairs for a general discussion – in a situation where everyone can see everyone.

There will be no Committee meeting in January

Jock White Field Days 2024

Gary ZL1WGL offers his place in a rural setting if we wish. We are happy to do the contest again and will do two bands - both phone and CW. Two of our newest amateurs are keen on getting into operating CW.

The meeting closed at 2050 hours



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting
held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 19 December 2023

Chairperson Peter ZL1PX opened the meeting at 1930 hours and welcomed all.

Attendance: ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1UOM, ZL1TZP, ZL1AMQ, ZL1WGL, ZL1SPR, ZL1LL, ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL, ZL1GAC, ZL1BQA.

Apologies: ZL4FJ, ZL1JRW accepted. ZL1PX / ZL1WGL

Minutes of the November meeting.

Approved

ZL1WGL / ZL1PX

Correspondence

Newsletters received since publication of December QUA, from Branch:

03: No general meeting in December. Radio activity day 1 January. Special general meeting 20 January to consider amendments to club's constitution. Newbie net 670 repeater 9 pm Tuesdays. Testing SWR meters.

ZL1WGL: scanned pages 3,4,5,6,9,10 of an earlier Club anniversary booklet.

Annual return has been emailed to Registrar of Incorporated Societies. Discussion followed on our responsibilities under the new act. We cannot afford to cease to exist as an Incorporated Society. The new requirements will require additional pages in our constitution, and we will need to go through registration before the end of 2026. We may need to spend a couple of hundred dollars to get the advice that NZART headquarters is obtaining as information for branches.

The correspondence report was accepted ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance

Income Interest \$92.74 (6 November), \$89.75 (4 December)
Subscriptions received from 8 members, donations in lieu from a further 3.

Expenditure Power bill \$52.58 paid 3 December
FMG Insurance \$765.83 paid 20 November and ratified at AGM

We will allow the term deposit to rollover for a further 1 year period (which is currently 6.1% for 12 months). Interest rates for periods beyond 12 months may already be falling so there may be no advantage in opting for a longer term.

New hams are offered gratis membership for their first year.

The finance report was approved. ZL1TO / ZL1BQA

Reports

AREC.

Franklin Disaster Resilience meeting. The most recent meeting was Tuesday 28 November. Tom ZL1TO attended the meeting at St Andrews and the AREC regional meeting at VHF Group clubhouse on Thursday 16 November. There has been no move yet to recruit a Deputy Group Leader. The Pukekohe draft plan has been circulated to the committee, but much detail is not included due to privacy concerns.

Peter ZL11PX and Steve ZL1TZP visited the QTH of a former amateur in Clevedon. A tilt over tower – (pipe with pivot/hinge and further pipe has yet be tilted down and cut off at ground level) has yet to be retrieved. A long 2m yagi is also still to be recovered. Gary ZL1WGL has an 8 m truck for transport. Rigs are 1970s vintage. Ted ZL1BQA commented that one power supply has HV for vacuum tubes – so the capacitors may be going south. The linear amplifier is a Z model and may be worth \$205 judging by current activity for a similar one on TradeMe. The oscilloscope is a radio monitor scope.

From another radio enthusiast has come CB gear, which has also been collected. Ted ZL1BQA commented that we may have a reasonable amount of equipment for this year's junk sale. Likewise there will be gear from a member who is downsizing.

Peter ZL1PX reported MOTAT would like to see us again in March 2024 for a similar activity to 2023.

Annual Dinner with Papakura Amateur Radio Club

There were 37 total present from both clubs.

Christmas on the Green, 2 December

Peter ZL1PX reported this event went well. Kids enjoyed it – but we were almost out of sight behind the ambulance. Free rides being offered from 12:30 pm were a greater attraction for the youngsters. The park is only 200m from our club. The local newspaper did notice FARC in its report.

75th anniversary.

The club was formed in August 1950 reported Gary ZL1WGL. Our next anniversary will be in 2025 – so we have 18 months to think about doing something. Ted ZL1BQA said we ought to bring the booklet up to date. Mention ought to be made that several members have been on NZART Council over the years – ZL1PZ, ZL1BBZ, ZL1BQA, ZL1SP, ZL1BAD in particular; and they need to be acknowledged. Debby may help from headquarters and the NZART historian is another good source of historical information of that sort.

General business

Ham exam

Peter has heard from David Manning of Bombay, who now has the callsign ZL1DMM. David is building a BitX. Ted ZL1BQA pointed out that the Club has handhelds which are Motorola and can be lent to new hams.

Topics at coming general meetings

Tonight Steve ZL1SPR will give a talk on his recent trip to visit USS Missouri in Hawaii. Supper will include strawberries and ice cream.

January: A round table discussion of ham related topics. Ted ZL1BQA will chair the discussion.

David Black ZL1MZ has offered to do a talk on DAB (digital audio broadcasting) and we should take up that offer at a time that suits David.

Peter ZL1PX has asked Mark Vincent of MOTAT for a speaker they might send to us (as quid pro quo).

Mike ZL1UOM reported that the Warbirds are selling some of their goodies, such as Spitfire parts, and some whole aircraft.

There will be no Committee meeting in January

Jock White Field Days 2024

We have accepted an offer from Gary ZL1WGL for the venue of our station. We will contest two bands - both phone and CW. There are two more club meetings before the contest. Peter ZL1PX noted that there is a requirement for members to act as riggers, road crew and a host of other roles.

The meeting closed at 2015 hours